

**Island County Board of Health**  
**Regular Session - Tuesday, August 18, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Commissioner Richard M. Hannold, Chair, Commissioner Helen Price Johnson, Commissioner Jill Johnson, Dr. Grethe Cammermeyer, Capt. Max Cormier (filling in for Capt. Frederick McDonald (ex-officio member)) and Dr. Brad Thomas, Executive Secretary to the Board

**Absent Members:** Mayor Scott Dudley

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Richard M. Hannold, Chair called to order this Regular Session of the Island County Board of Health at 1:03 pm.

**Rescheduled November's Regular Session:** The Regular Session in November has been rescheduled by a unanimous vote. A Special Session on Monday, November 16, 2015 @ 1:00pm will be held. All Board members were previously contacted via email regarding the suggested date change. Mayor Dudley's office responded via email, positively to the suggested date of November 16, 2015 although not present today to vote.

**Additions or Changes to the Agenda:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Richard M. Hannold, Chair called for the approval of the minutes of the July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 Regular Session. Commissioner Helen Price Johnson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Grethe Cammermeyer seconded the motion. Minutes approved by those present to vote.

**Public Input or Comment:** None.

**Presentations:**

1. Mary Anderson, Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB) liaison to the Board of Health provided the quarterly update, providing continued progress of the Community Health Assessment survey. A number of local, state and national statistics were provided along with a reiteration of CHAB's concerns regarding mental health issues in Island County.
2. Keith Higman, Health Services Director presented a recommendation to the Board of Health for the appointment of JoAnn H Strong to the CHAB for a three year term. JoAnn has been active as a volunteer with CHAB, and would be a great asset as a new member. Commissioner Helen Price Johnson moved to appoint Ms. Strong to the CHAB; Commissioner Jill Johnson seconded the motion. JoAnn H. Strong's appointment to CHAB was unanimously approved by those present to vote.

**Contracts:** None.

**Legislative Update:** None – not in session.

**Health Department Report:** Keith Higman – Health Services Director/Brad Thomas – Health Officer

1. Mathew & Stephanie McCleary v. State of Washington; a Supreme Court order filed August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - basic Public Education and the State's ongoing violation of its constitutional obligation to amply provide for such. Assessed in this suit is a remedial penalty of \$100,000/day until the State adopts a complete plan for complying. The Court encourages the governor to aid in resolving this matter by calling a special session. As funding is always a public health concern, where this additional funding will come from is something to watch.
2. August: National Immunization Awareness Month; With immunization rates below state rates and well below the national goal of 95%, access, awareness, attitude and fears remain hurdles to overcome on the quest to increase immunization rates in Island County. August 11<sup>th</sup> marked one full year since a polio case has been confirmed in Africa. This leaves only two countries worldwide with endemic polio; Afghanistan and Pakistan. In his lifetime, Dr. Thomas noted, polio in the United States has been completely eradicated.
3. August: National Breastfeeding Month; A time to focus on promoting and protecting breastfeeding in the United States, as breastfeeding is one of the most effective ways mothers can prevent disease and protect the health of their infants. The needs of nursing moms in Island County are benefited from



having an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant on staff in the Community & Family Health Division of Island County Public Health (ICPH).

4. August: National Water Quality Month; Water quality is an important issue everywhere, but Island County is unique simply because of the living on islands. Nationwide, due to a lack of funding and support for local health departments, programmatic activity to protect the quality and quantity of fresh water decreased from 66.9% in 2008 to 46.4% in 2012. However, ICPH has strong programs in place to protect the water quality and availability of drinking water in Island County, and will continue to do so with support policies in place for sustainable water use.
5. WA SECURES email alert: State Emergency Operations Center is now fully activated in response to over 1,200 wildfires currently burning across the state. Multiple concerns accompany wildfires, including immediate threats to life and safety, impacts to critical infrastructures such as power and drinking water systems that can threaten public health, air quality degradation and potential evacuation needs.
6. E-cigarettes: Legislation on this issue didn't make it through the last legislative session, however some health jurisdictions have adopted ordinances and/or set regulations restricting the sale, marketing, use and availability of Electronic Vapor Devices and E-liquid. With the Board expressing a desire to be more informed on the issue of e-cigarettes and vaping, Keith Higman, the Health Officer and ICPH staff will bring more information back to the Board for a further discussion.

**Board Comments/Announcements:** There was a short discussion around the provision of mental health services and the importance of collaboration of local and state partners in Island County.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Richard M. Hannold, Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Helen Price Johnson moved to adjourn; Grethe Cammermeyer seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.

The next Regular Session of the Island County Board of Health is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioner's Hearing Room (B-102) of the Annex Building.

Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Brad Thomas, MD

Minutes approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 2015  
ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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Commissioner Richard M. Hannold, Chair